



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: More than 15,000 children in the United States are diagnosed with cancer each year, a diagnosis that directly impacts their quality of life; and
- WHEREAS: On December 11, 2002, the Pinky Swear Foundation began with a pinky swear between 9- year-old Mitch Chepokas and his father, Steve, promising to forever help improve the quality of life for children battling cancer and their families; and
- WHEREAS: The Pinky Swear Foundation has provided more than 4.5 million dollars in support to families with children battling cancer through immediate needs support and unique family programs; and
- WHEREAS: For 12 years, the programs of the Pinky Swear Foundation have kept Mitch's pinky swear promise by sending children fighting cancer and their siblings to summer camps, providing weekend getaways for entire families, and stocking food pantries at the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital; and
- WHEREAS: Apart from the direct impact of the organization on the lives of children battling cancer and their families, the Pinky Swear Foundation inspires other children and families to become involved in their communities and make a difference through MiracleKids Triathlons; and
- WHEREAS: Pinky Swear Day helps raise awareness of the work of the Pinky Swear Foundation in easing the financial and emotional impacts experienced by thousands of families during a challenging time, greatly improving the quality of life for children battling cancer and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, December 11, 2014, as:

PINKY SWEAR DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 24th day of November.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE